

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

Comments on dropping the 5WPM code requirement for Amateur Radio Licensing:

I am IN FAVOR of dropping code requirements on these conditions:

1. Maintain and expand current frequencies for CW mode only for HAMs that do  
use code, especially for National and Regional Emergency Services.
2. Offer incentive Licensing for all HAMs who are proven code proficient from  
their interest in the most reliable, most available, and simplest form of wireless  
communication, especially in times of National crisis and emergencies.  
This incentive could be as simple as a License Endorsement  
for Legacy Telegraph Proficiency to a New License Class  
something like Legacy Class requiring passing the code test at least  
13wpm  
in addition to the General Class minimum requirements.

Future HAMs that really want the code requirement will go for the New License Class anyhow and provide the needed skills to keep this Legacy Mode of Communication alive and well and available to use in times of National crisis and emergencies.

Respectfully,  
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Member ARRL  
Proficient at 20wpm code speed

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